

VICTIM/WITNESS SECTION

VICTIM SERVICES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM – JUVENILE

Program Description

The Victim Services Enhancement Program (VJ) program provides direct services to victims of youthful offenders committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice. Victim services provided by project staff include notifying victims of the whereabouts of offenders and circumstances of the case, counseling and education regarding victim's rights, and assistance in preparing victim impact statements of outreach to victims, including victim speakers, presentations, and interns.

Eligibility

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice is the only agency eligible to apply.

Authorized By

California State Legislature and the Office of Emergency Services

Fund Source and Amount

Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) - \$ 175,100

Grant Award Period

October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009

Next Competitive/Non Competitive Application Due Date

Non Competitive - September 2008

Additional Program Information

The following are mandatory objectives for the Victim Services Enhancement Program: provide direct services to victims of newly committed offenders under the jurisdiction of the CDCR; inform victims of their rights as victims and offer them the opportunity to participate in the offender's parole board and release hearings; provide outreach activities and identification of victims whose identity is unknown; advise victims of their rights and options; provide accompaniment to juvenile offender hearings for the purpose of providing information and explanation of the process and emotional support; deliver counseling and referral services; conduct training sessions for new victim advocates, probation, and victims service providers on the services provided by the program; and engage volunteers in the process.

How Do I Get More Information

This program is administered by the Victim/Witness Section in the Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Victim/Witness Branch of OES at (916) 324-9136.